

blessing is being torn away by men who set little value on the spiritual welfare of the Nation's wards. We who have watched over the temporal as well as the spiritual interests of the Indian child for over half a century, see our life work disappearing before the westward march of modern civilization. Our Osage Mission in Kansas is naught but a sad, sweet memory; and our labors in the land of de Vaca are about to share the same fate if we trust to the support or gratitude of the Government.

Bernalillo, garden spot of New Mexico! Last refuge of our little ones! we turn our tear-dimmed eyes to thee, and wonder how long thou canst continue the good work and cherish within thy walls those prairie flowers so dear to our hearts. Founded in eighty-five by the Very Rev. Joseph A. Stephan, the number of inmates, small in the beginning, gradually increased, and in eighty-eight a contract was made between the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions. The terms were strictly complied with by the Sisters, and though the agents of the Government pronounced the school eminently satisfactory, yet the contract was cut down year by year until at present the only help comes to the institution from the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions.

When we reflect upon the good accomplished by the Sisters; when we see children ranging from seven to seventeen equally ignorant of the requirements of civilized life—understanding no language but their own Indian tongue, wholly incapable of coping with the dangers that beset them—in a few short years stepping forth from the convent walls possessing a good knowledge of the elementary branches, and some developing quite a talent for music—when we see all this and know that the heart also has been educated and beautiful moral virtues planted there—and when each year we see a number step forth well equipped for the battle of life with sweetest, tenderest memories of their school days, no wonder that our hearts are sore to see might triumphing over right